

Type material of *Adelomelon indigestus* von Ihering, 1908 (Gastropoda, Volutidae)

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Resumo

Material tipo de *Adelomelon indigestus* von Ihering, 1908 (Gastropoda, Volutidae). *Adelomelon indigestus* von Ihering, 1908 é considerado um sinônimo de *Adelomelon beckii* (Broderip, 1836), entretanto a categoria taxonômica de seu material tipo não estava claro. Após a localização e exame dos dois exemplares citados na descrição original de *A. indigestus* os mesmos foram reconhecidos como síntipos. De acordo com o Código Internacional de Nomenclatura Zoológica, não havendo designação de lectótipo, a localidade-tipo deve incluir tanto Guaratiba, Rio de Janeiro quanto São Sebastião, São Paulo, ambos localizados no litoral sudeste do Brasil.

Unitermos: Taxonomia, material tipo, Volutidae, *Adelomelon indigestus*, Oeste do Atlântico Sul

Abstract

Adelomelon indigestus von Ihering, 1908 is known to be a synonym of *Adelomelon beckii* (Broderip, 1836) but the taxonomic status of its type material was not previously clear. The specimens cited in the original description of *A. indigestus* were located and recognized as syntypes. Under the rule of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, the type locality is proposed to include Guaratiba (Rio de Janeiro) and São Sebastião (São Paulo) both on the southeastern littoral of Brazil.

Key words: Taxonomy, Type material, Volutidae, *Adelomelon indigestus*, South Western Atlantic

Adelomelon indigestus von Ihering, 1908 is known to be a junior synonym of *Adelomelon beckii* (Broderip, 1836) (Clench and Turner, 1964; Weaver and du Pont, 1970; Poppe and Goto, 1992; Rios, 1994), but the status and whereabouts of its type material has not been clear until now.

The original description and figure of what von Ihering (1908) believed to be a new species of *Adelomelon* was given in a footnote. A single shell collected in São Sebastião, São Paulo, Brazil is described but no information is given on where the specimen was deposited. A second specimen, collected by the ship “Vapeur Annie” in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, is only cited in the text with reference to the Museu Nacional, Rio de Janeiro (MNRJ) collection. There were no other details about this second specimen, nor were there any references on which specimen was figured.

The examination of lots “Museu de Zoologia de São Paulo (MZSP) 5686” and “MNRJ 950” showed that these two shells were the same as the one mentioned by von Ihering (1908). The

shell MZSP 5686 (Figures 1a to 1d) proved to be the one collected in São Sebastião and fully described by von Ihering (1908). The label has the inscription “Im Magen von Merlo gefunden” in von Ihering’s handwriting (Figure 1c), indicating that it was collected in the stomach of a grouper (a tropical fish of the genus *Epinephelus* Bloch, 1793). This information was also given in the original description.

The specimen is juvenile (or a young adult) as the shell measures 204 mm in total length and 95 mm in total width. The aperture is about half the shell length, as mentioned by von Ihering (1908).

The shell MNRJ 950 (Figures 1e to 1g) proved to be the figured shell (although it was not indicated by the author that the figured shell was different to the one described) and was cited as being collected by the ship “Vapeur Annie”. The shell measures 402 mm in total length by 144 mm in total width and has the same scars as the shell figured by von Ihering (1908). The label indicates that the shell was collected in Guaratiba, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

There was no holotype designation, and according to the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN, 1999) article 72.1.4, both specimens should be regarded as syntypes. In this case, the type location – according to ICZN (1999) article 73.2.3 – of both syntypes should be regarded as the type location of the taxon, i.e., it should be São Sebastião (São Paulo) and Guaratiba (Rio de Janeiro) both in Brazil.

We could not find any reason for a lectotype designation, since it would not bring any taxonomic change, nor would it assure the correct usage of the name in any way distinct from the recognition of the syntypes. Lectotype designation is therefore avoided in this paper.

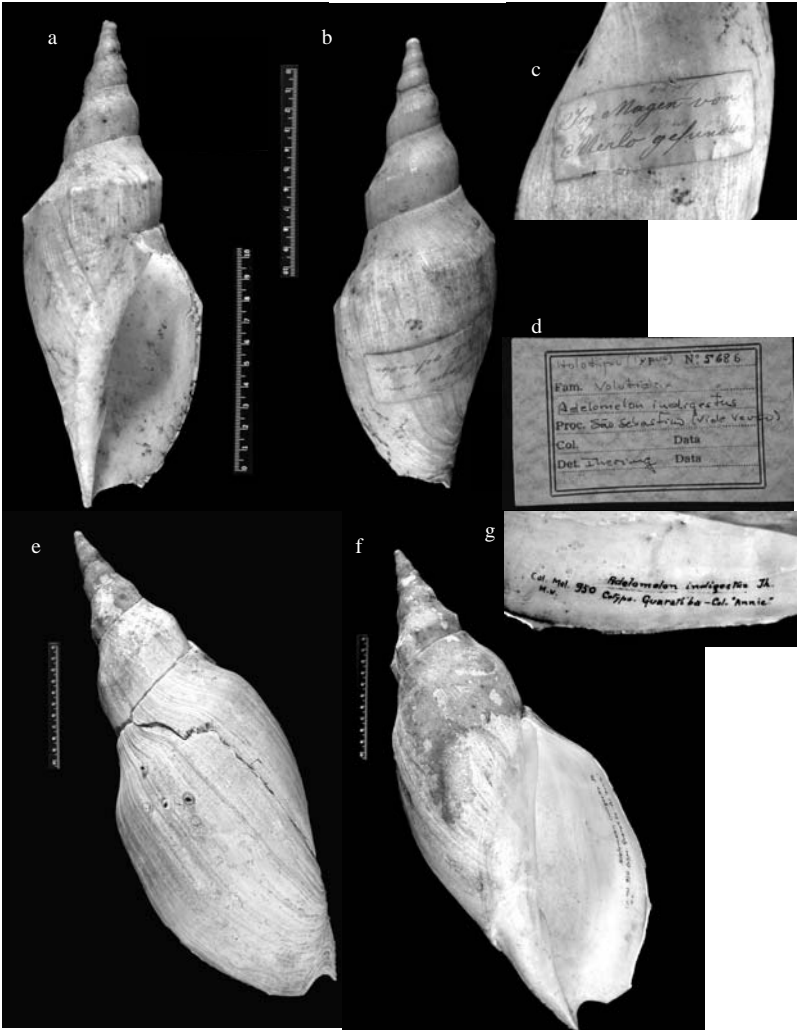


FIGURE 1: *Adelomelon indigestus* von Ihering, 1908; (a to c) syntype MZSP 5686; (a) ventral view; (b) dorsal view; (c) detail of the label “Im Magen von Merlo gefunden” in von Ihering’s handwriting (d) detail of the label; (e to g) syntype MNRJ 950; (e) dorsal view; (f) ventral view; (g) detail of the inscription “*Adelomelon indigestus* Ih. MN 950; Cotipo; Guaratiba. Col. ‘Annie’ ” on outer lip. Scales: 100 mm.

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